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THRU : Chief, Requirements Branch,
Intelligence Information Staff, ORR
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Wuchang Shipyard

Background

Wuchang Shipyard is a known producer of submarines, minesweepers, and river vessels. The shipyard facilities are new, being used for ship construction in 1957-8. The yard possesses an undetermined number of shipbuilding ways which open onto a transfer table, similar to those in the USSR, and a launching system probably by means of a large carriage running on inclined tracks. Vessels are fitted out alongside barges moored in the Yangtze off the shipyard. See sketch attached.

Previous photographic coverage included the large covered building shown in the sketch which is probably used for the construction of sub assemblies, and a portion of the shipbuilding ways showing what appear to be some sort of roofing over the ways along with cranes.

Requirements

1. Photographic coverage of the building ways, transfer platform and the launching carriage. Photos should be of sufficient quality to permit good enlargement and to be susceptible to photo-interpretation.
2. Similar photographic coverage of all vessels fitting out alongside barges or in the vicinity of the shipyard.
3. Determine how many shipbuilding ways are in the yard; the length of these ways, and the types of vessels under construction. It is hoped that this requirement can be fully satisfied by photography.
4. If possible, a good 35 mm camera with telephoto lens and film equivalent to Plus-X should be used.

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Distribution:

Orig and 1 - Addressee

1 - Actg Ch/D/I ✓

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